



Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2013, 1 p.m.
at Metro Social Services
800 2nd Avenue North, Suite 100

Present: Diane Kuhn, Renee Pratt, Megan Barry, Kirby Davis
Staff: Will Connelly, Judith Tackett

Minutes

The minutes of the executive committee meeting Jan. 21. were approved.

Financials & Budget

Pam McEwen reported that as of now it still looks like the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission is over budget, but that is due to the Room In The Inn contract for the Day Center and the Guest House. Room In The Inn will continue to bill us every month until their contract is used up. They will not go over the budget.

Ms. McEwen said that in actuality the Commission was under-budget due to the staff vacancies.

She also reported on the budget, which was presented with a 3%-cut to the Metro Social Services Board. The cuts were made in the contracts. Ms. McEwen said the contracts are formulated in a way that permit for funding cuts, and this is the only way the budget really can be reduced. The Commission will have a good indication whether the budget is going to be cut when the Mayor publishes his budget proposal, which is in April.

Ms. McEwen also went over the Project Homeless Connect, How's Nashville, and CDBG funds budgets.

The PHC budget is not expected to change much until the RFP is finished and the money will be dispersed.

Ms. McEwen said she anticipated that by the end of the year the How's Nashville fund will have a little over \$69,000. She said the Boulevard Bolt grant for \$12,000 was before Council for their approval today. She also reported that the Commission was still in good shape in terms of the NES gift certificates and bus passes.

The MDHA grant of the CDBG funds, so far \$2,642 were spent in January. Megan Barry asked how long the Commission has to spend that money down. Pam McEwen said the grant was for one year from January to January. She said the money can be used for move-in costs such as utilities, first month's rent, and deposits. It may be good to get prepared to ask for an extension to spend the money down.

Renee Pratt said there was no firm date of the Metro Social Services' budget presentation yet.

Staff update

Will Connelly informed the committee that Deon Trotter, who currently works at the Mental Health Cooperative and is very familiar with the How's Nashville process, has accepted the position as Housing/Outreach coordinator and will start March 17.

Mr. Connelly said he was working with HR and Renee Pratt on the other position.

Cold Weather Situation

The committee discussed briefly how the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission was involved in this year's cold spell. The Commission staff helped coordinate during extreme cold nights. Judy Tackett reported that she contacted the Medical Examiner's Office and they said they were not aware of any person who passed away due to hypothermia this winter. The Commission would like to convene partner organizations to complete a long-term plan and be prepared for next year.

How's Nashville – CES

Will Connelly gave a quick report of the two-day boot camp on the Central Entry System (CES). He said while How's Nashville has been assisting people with housing for months, this approach will improve the housing system and teach us as a community how to do it better. He explained the process of matching people with apartments. The goal is to streamline the process of housing people while still trying to focus serving the people with highest acuity (most vulnerable). Further discussion focused on the fact that Nashville now includes family in the initial assessment. The Vulnerability Index is being replaced with an updated tool called the VI-SPDAT.

Will Connelly said the goal was to house 50 individuals and 50 families in the next 100 days (workdays – with a deadline of May 30).

Diane Kuhn commented briefly on the 60 Minutes piece. There was a lot of positive feedback from the community.

Megan Barry said that Will Connelly is going to be recognized as one of the 40 leaders under 40 by the Business Journal's 40 Under 40 segment.

Contract Reports Format

Diane Kuhn said the main focus should be on simplifying the reports for the commissioners and keeping them to one page. Will Connelly will work with contractors on that.

Announcements

No announcements were made.

The next full Commission meeting is scheduled for March 7.

Megan Barry made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Diane Kuhn.

Meeting adjourned.